Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No.: 10/089,602

REMARKS

Claims 1-107 are all the claims pending in the application.

I. Priority

Applicant notes that the Examiner has incorrectly acknowledged a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 and/or 121. The present application is a National stage application under 35 U.S.C. § 371 claiming priority from JP 279680/1999 having a filing date of September 30, 1999. Accordingly, Applicant request that the Examiner acknowledge Applicant's claim to foreign priority in the next Office paper.

II. Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant thanks the Examiner for initialing next to the reference listed in the "foreign patent documents" section of the PTO-1449 form submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on October 8, 2002. The Examiner, however, did not initial next to the reference listed in the "other prior art" section of the PTO-1449 form submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on October 8, 2002.

For the Examiner's convenience, a clean copy of form PTO-1449 is submitted herewith, listing only the above mentioned reference that the Examiner did not initial. Accordingly, Applicant kindly requests that the Examiner initial next to the reference and submit the initialed and signed form with the next Office paper.

III.   Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings because Figs. 1, 2, 3A, 3B and 3C are not labeled as prior art. Applicant herewith submits replacement sheets for the above mentioned figures which incorporate the "prior art" label. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the objection be withdrawn.

IV.   Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 1-107 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 1, the Examiner asserts that it is not clear what is means by "fixed to one of the first and second..." Applicant respectfully disagrees. Claim 1 sets forth "a cantilever, one end of which is fixed to one of the first and second distributed constant lines..." Applicant submits that the plain language of the claim makes it clear that this phrase means that one end of the cantilever is fixed to one of the distributed constant lines. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Regarding the remaining phrases in the claims that the Examiner asserts are unclear, Applicant has amended the claims in a manner believed to overcome the Examiner's rejections. Accordingly, Applicant kindly requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

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V.   Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-107 would be allowable if

rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. As

discussed above, the claims have been amended in a manner to overcome the rejections under 35

U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 1-107 are in

immediate condition for allowance.

VI.   Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed

to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is

kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Applicants hereby petition for any extension of time which may be required to maintain

the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to

be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,

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